

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 EB-11

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TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 222699

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, EFIN, NATO

SUBJECT: BURDENSARING

REF: USNATO 5395

1. WE BELIEVE THAT PO AS OUTLINED REFTTEL WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE COMPATIBLE WITH DEGREE OF PROGRESS WE HOPE CAN BE REGISTERED BY DECEMBER MINISTERIAL. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT PO WOULD INVITE LOWERING OF SIGHTS ON PART OF MANY NATIONS AND ENCOURAGE INACTION THROUGH YEAR'S END.

2. MESSAGE REPORTING NOVEMBER 8 NAC CONSIDERATION OF BURDENSARING NOT YET RECEIVED HERE, BUT WE UNDERSTAND POSITIVE SPIRIT WAS SHOWN BY SOME ALLIES, INCLUDING SENTIMENT FOR REDUCED US COST-SHARE IN NATO BUDGETS, AND EXPRESSIONS BY NETHERLANDS AND NORWAY OF INTENT TO INCREASE PROCUREMENT.

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3. REGARDING REDUCED US COST-SHARE FOR BUDGETS, WE BELIEVE PERMREPS SHOULD RETAIN COGNIZANCE OF MATTER AND BE URGED TO DEVELOP FIRM SUGGESTIONS FOR PRESENTATION TO MINISTERS IN DECEMBER. DELEGATION NOW TO VARIOUS LOWER LEVEL COMMITTEES CONCERNED WOULD DELAY QUESTION CONSIDERABLY AND IN OUR OPINION IS NOT NECESSARY.

4. AT DECEMBER MINISTERIAL WE ALSO CONSIDER IT WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO OBTAIN CONSIDERABLY MORE THAN A GENERAL STATEMENT OF ALLIED INTENTION TO ASSIST US WITH ITS BOP AND BUDGETARY PROBLEMS. WE NEED SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS THAT TANGIBLE MEASURES WILL BE UNDERTAKEN TO DEMONSTRATE TO CONGRESS THAT REAL PROGRESS IS BEING MADE, AND THAT WE ARE GETTING MORE FROM ALLIES THAN CONTINUED EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY.

5. DRAWING ON ABOVE POINTS, YOU SHOULD URGE SYG TO DEFER ISSUING PO UNTIL WE HAVE A CHANCE TO DETERMINE MOST PROMISING COURSE OF ACTION BETWEEN NOW AND DECEMBER MINISTERIALS. FYI: THIS DETERMINATION MUST AWAIT CAREFUL ASSESSMENT OF NAC DISCUSSION ON BURDEN-SHARING, SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S DISCUSSIONS IN CONJUNCTION WITH NPG, AND UNDER SECRETARY CASEY'S DISCUSSIONS WITH FRG ON OFFSET. END FYI.

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